

## Golden Gate University School of Law GGU Law Digital Commons

---

Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture Series

Conferences, Lectures and Workshops

---

1-24-2020

### 11th Annual Chief Justice Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture: Judicial Insights with Judge Morgan Christen

Golden Gate University School of Law

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/rongearge>



Part of the [Judges Commons](#), and the [Other Law Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Golden Gate University School of Law, "11th Annual Chief Justice Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture: Judicial Insights with Judge Morgan Christen" (2020). *Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture Series*. 34.

<https://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/rongearge/34>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences, Lectures and Workshops at GGU Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture Series by an authorized administrator of GGU Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [jfischer@ggu.edu](mailto:jfischer@ggu.edu).



**GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY**  
— **SCHOOL OF LAW** —

*Golden Gate University Law Review Presents:*

**Judicial Insights with  
Judge Morgan Christen**

ELEVENTH ANNUAL CHIEF JUSTICE RONALD M. GEORGE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

**January 24, 2020**

# **11th Annual Ronald M. George Lecture**

***The Annual Chief Justice Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture Series, named after legendary former Chief Justice of California Ronald M. George, shines a light on the vital role of the courts by bringing together judicial leaders to share their perspectives on critical issues facing the judiciary.***

*Golden Gate University Law Review's Ninth Circuit Survey* is the only law review in the nation dedicated exclusively to decisions issued by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Every year, the *Survey* showcases key decisions of the court over a variety of legal fields, delving beyond the results of the Ninth Circuit cases to analyze the underlying reasoning, effect, and possible implications on future law, and this year's *Survey* is no different.

The Introduction of this year's *Survey*, written by the Honorable Jacqueline H. Nguyen, details the Ninth Circuit's efforts to promote civic education. The *Survey* features two Notes written by Golden Gate University School of Law students, which you will have the opportunity to hear about from the authors. Each exploring a different area of the law, the Notes in this edition analyze key decisions recently issued by the Ninth Circuit that pertain to 1) the use of the inverse-ratio rule in copyright infringement actions, and 2) the balance between the interests of government employers and the personal autonomy of government employees.

Today, we are honored to welcome the Honorable Morgan Christen, United States Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the Honorable Ann C. Moorman, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.

# Agenda

## January 24, 2020

---

### ELEVENTH ANNUAL CHIEF JUSTICE RONALD M. GEORGE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT COURT  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

**5:00 p.m. WELCOME**

**Anthony Niedwiecki**

*Dean, Golden Gate University School of Law*

**LAW REVIEW INTRODUCTION**

**Kyndal Currie (JD '20)**

*Editor-in-Chief, Golden Gate University Law Review*

**Alyssa Chavers (JD '20)**

*Williams v. Gaye: Further Blurring the Lines  
Between Inspiration and Infringement*

**Allyson M. McCain (JD '21)**

*Perez v. City of Roseville: Constitutional Protection  
for the Public Employee in "Matters Pertaining to Sex"*

**5:30 p.m. INTRODUCTION**

**Hon. Ann C. Moorman (JD '87)**

*Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California,  
County of Mendocino*

**5:40 p.m. LECTURE**

**Hon. Morgan Christen (JD '86)**

*U.S. Circuit Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit*

**6:40 p.m. CLOSING REMARKS**

**Kyndal Currie (JD '20)**

*Editor-in-Chief, Golden Gate University Law Review*

**6:45 p.m. REFRESHMENTS SERVED**



*The Honorable*

# Judge Morgan Christen

**United States Circuit Judge of the  
United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**

**J**udge Morgan Christen was appointed to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in January of 2012. She currently serves on the Ninth Circuit's Judicial Council, Ninth Circuit's Executive Committee, the Circuit Conference Executive Committee, the Courts and Communities Committee, the Pacific Islands Committee, and chairs the Cameras in the Courtroom Committee. In October 2019, she began a three-year term on the Judicial Conference Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction. Judge Christen chaired the Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee for District 14 in 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Prior to her appointment as a Ninth Circuit Judge, Judge Christen served as a justice on the Alaska Supreme Court. Judge Christen was born and raised in Washington, and

attended college in England, Switzerland, and the People's Republic of China. She earned a B.A. degree from the University of Washington in International Studies and a J.D. degree from Golden Gate University School of Law. After law school, Judge Christen clerked for Judge Brian Shortell, and then joined Preston Gates & Ellis where she practiced civil litigation. Judge Christen was appointed to the Alaska Superior Court in 2001 and served as Presiding Judge of the Third Judicial District from 2005-2009.

Judge Christen was awarded the Light of Hope Award for work on behalf of Alaska's children and she and her husband, Jim Torgerson, were named Philanthropists of the Year in 2004. Judge Christen is a past recipient of the Alaska Supreme Court's Community Outreach Award, the Chamber of Commerce Athena Award, and a YWCA Woman of Achievement. Judge Christen and her husband live in Anchorage. They have one daughter.





*The Honorable*  
**Ann C. Moorman**

**Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California,  
County of Mendocino**

**J**oining the bench in 2011, Judge Ann Moorman currently serves as presiding judge for the Superior Court of Mendocino County. In addition to her duties as presiding judge, she oversees Mendocino's adult Behavioral Health Court and assists in dependency, delinquency, and criminal matters. She has handled felonies and associated misdemeanors from arraignment through trial and sentencing. Judge Moorman also sits on the Judicial Council, following her appointment by the Chief Justice, and serves as Vice Chair of the Judicial Branch Budget Committee.

In 2013, Judge Moorman spearheaded the creation of the Behavioral Health Court by drafting the grant application and developing the policies and practices of the court. This specialty court is a type of collaborative justice court, also

known as problem-solving courts, which combine judicial supervision with rehabilitation services that focus on reducing recidivism and improving offender outcomes.

Off the bench, Judge Moorman has served as president of both the California Attorneys for Criminal Justice and the Legal Services Corporation of Mendocino and Lake Counties. She is also fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Moorman worked in private practice in civil and criminal matters, later specializing in complex white-collar litigation.





536 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA  
94105-2968

law.ggu.edu  
social: @GGULaw